

REMARKS

In addition to amendments and remarks presented in the Response filed on October 30, 2006, please reconsider the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. This supplemental amendment is filed to clarify the claimed invention. The arguments made in the previous Response are incorporated in their entirety. Applicant thanks the Examiner for carefully considering this application.

Disposition of Claims and Claim Amendments

In the Response filed on October 30, 2006 (“Response”), claim 29 was cancelled and new claims 30-50 were presented. In the present Supplemental Amendment, claims 30-33 and 39-44 have been cancelled. Thus, claims 34-38 and 45-50 remain pending, of which, claims 39 and 45 are independent. The remaining claims depend, directly or indirectly, from claims 39 and 45. No new matter has been added by way of these amendments, as support may be found in, for example, originally filed claims 1-21.

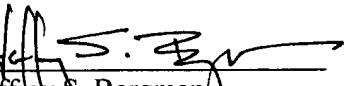
Applicant believes that the remarks made in the Response are fully responsive to the Office Action dated September 26, 2006. The present Supplemental Amendment merely cancels several of the newly presented claims of the Response.

Conclusion

Applicant believes this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 05516/056003).

Dated: December 19, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Jeffrey S. Bergman
Registration No.: 45,925
OSHA · LIANG LLP
1221 McKinney St., Suite 2800
Houston, Texas 77010
(713) 228-8600
(713) 228-8778 (Fax)
Attorney for Applicant

Attachments